

Message Text

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46

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 USSS-00 SY-07 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 PRS-01 PA-03 USIA-12 RSR-01 /064 W
----- 064388

P 131700 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1097

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CGEN EFIN NL

SUBJECT: U. S. COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY SEIZED IN NETHERLANDS

1. INSPECTOR SIETSMA OF AMSTERDAM POLICE HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY FOLLOWING INFORMATION REPORTED IN NEWSPAPERS: AFTER EXTENDED INVESTIGATION NETHERLANDS POLICE RAIDED DWELLING IN OEGSTGEEST, SUBURB OF THE HAGUE, NIGHT OF APRIL 12, APPREHENDED THREE DUTCH AND ONE MOROCCAN SUSPECTS, AND SEIZED SOME 6,000,000 DOLLARS IN COUNTERFEIT U. S. CURRENCY IN DENOMINATIONS OF 10, 20, 50 AND 100 DOLLARS, TOGETHER WITH APPARENTLY COMPLETE PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT. FOURTH DUTCH SUSPECT WAS ARRESTED IN SIMULTANEOUS RAID IN KLOOSTERZANDE, ZEELAND.

2. SIETSMA STATED THAT INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING AND FULL INFORMATION ON CASE WILL BE TRANSMITTED IN DUE TIME TO CENTRAL OFFICE OF INTERPOL ON COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY IN PARIS. HE STATED THAT NO FURTHER INFORMATION COULD YET BE MADE AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY, NOR COULD EXAMPLES OF CURRENCY SEIZED BE DELIVERED TO EMBASSY OR CONSULATE AT THIS TIME.

3. INSPECTOR STATED THAT FOR LEGAL PURPOSES POLICE NEED WRITTEN STATEMENT BY COMPETENT U. S. AUTHORITY TO EFFECT THAT SUCH MANUFACTURE OF U. S. CURRENCY IS FORBIDDEN UNDER U. S. LAW. HE ALSO INQUIRED WHETHER U. S. TREASURY REPRESENTATIVE QUALIFIED IN COUNTER-
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FEIT FIELD MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO COME TO ON OF CRASH AS YD 103 280 (APPROX. BASED ON 1:250,000 SCALE CHART) 14 NAUTICAL MILES FROM HUONG HOA VILLAGE (XD 895 375) ON A BEARING 113 DEGREES MAGNETIC. (PRG HAD CLAIMED AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SIGHTED OFF COURSE AT XD 995 302 A POINT ON A DIRECT FLIGHT PATH FROM HUONG HOA TO CRAST SITE.)

B) THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THE WRECKAGE HAS BEEN MOVED TO ANOTHER SITE. ON THE CONTRARY THE INVESTIGATING TEAM WAS CONVINCED BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT THAT THE SITE EXAMINED WAS THE ACTUAL CRASH SITE. EXAMPLES OF EVIDENCE IN THIS REGARD WHICH WERE CITED TO OUR SOURCE INCLUDED MATCHING OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY A SURVIVING INDODEL ON FLIGHT 115 THE DAY AFTER THE CRASH WHEN ICCS SURVIVORS WERE SHOWN CRASH WITH PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY INVESTIGATING TEAM. CANDEL WITH PHOTO INTERPRETATION TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE STATED HE WAS 95 PERCENT CERTAIN FROM PHOTOS THAT THE TWO SETS OF PICTURES WERE OF THE SAME LOCATION. ANOTHER EXAMPLE WAS OBSERVATION OF A CHOPPER SKID WHICH WAS LEFT RAMMED THROUGH A TREE UPON IMPACT. INVESTIGATING TEAM BELIEVED DUPLICATION OF SUCH EVIDENCE WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

3. WITH THE BENEFIT OF INCREASED KNOWLEDGE OF AREA INVOLVED GAINED SINCE CRASH. WITH INFO FROM SITE INVESTIGATION, AND FROM FURTHER DEBRIEFINGS OF SURVIVING CREW AIR AMERICA CHIEF PILOT RECONSTRUCTED FOR EMBOFF APPARENT CHAIN OF EVENTS. NEW ROUTE RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED BY COMMUNIST FORCES, WHICH BRANCHES SOUTH OFF ROUTE #9 JUST PAST KHE SANH AND DOES NOT SHOW ON CURRENT MAPS, WAS FOLLOWED BY LEAD AIRCRAFT PRESUMABLY AT DIRECTION OF PRG LIASON OFFICER NAVIGATOR DESPITE SPECIFIC PRG WARNING RE POSSIBLE CONFUSION AT THIS POINT. RUOTE #9 AN OLDER AN NARROWER ROUTE WITH CONSIDERABLE JUNGLE OVERHANG WAS NOT CLEAR WHILE NEW RUOTE FRESHLY CARVED STOOD OUT CLEARLY. CHIEF PILOT HAS NOW CONFIRMED THAT INCREDIBLE AS ONE MIGHT FIND IT PILOTS IN SECOND AIRCRAFT WHO HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO FLY IN TRAIN WITH LEAD AIRCRAFT AND SIMPLY DO WHAT LEAD CHOOOPER DID DID NOT LOOK AT THEIR COMPASS FROM THE TIME THEY COMMENCED THE SLOW TURN DUE SOUTH OFF ROUTE #9 UNTIL FIVE MINUTES LATER BY WHICH TIMES THEY HAD AGAIN TURNED WSW. BY THEN THEY WERE ENGAGED IN THE EPISODE WHICH LED TO THEIR DOWNING. THE FACT THE SUN WAS DIRECTLY OVER HEAD IN THE EPISODE WHICH LED TO THEIR DOWNING. THE FACT THE SUN AT THE TIME 1150 HOURS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: CGEN, EFIN, NL
To: PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
TRSE INFO AMSTERDAM
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